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Concert: Ithaca College Opera Workshop

Opera Workshop Students

Earl McCarroll

Beverly A. Patton

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*"It is
plan
to build
a school
of music
second
to none."*

—William
Grant Egbert
(1867–1928)
Founder,
Ithaca
Conservatory
Music

SCHOOL OF MUSIC

ITHACA

ITHACA COLLEGE OPERA WORKSHOP

Earl McCarroll, stage director
Beverly A. Patton, music director/conductor
Ines Draskovic, Steven Uhl, graduate assistants

I. *Così fan Tutti* Act I, Finale

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Fiordoligi
Dorabella
Despina
Ferrando
Guglielmo
Don Alfonso

Beth Malvezzi
Katy Crutchfield
Amy Johnson
John Conahan
Brooks Kranich
Damian Savarino

On a bet with Don Alfonso, the men have come in disguise to woo each other's sweetheart, thereby proving that the ladies are faithful. When they pretend to take poison, Alfonso brings Despina (the ladies' maid) disguised as a doctor of Mesmeric medicine, who revives the men. They resume their pursuit and, after wavering somewhat, the ladies cling to their pose of outraged propriety. The men are delighted at their lover's fidelity, but Alfonso and Despina have seen the chink in their armor.

II. *Aida* (in Italian) Act 11, Duet

Giusseppe Verdi
(1813-1901)

Aida
Amneris

Alyssa Sullivan
Jayne Flores

Pharoah's daughter, Amneris, traps her slave, Aida, into a confession of love for Radames by telling her that he was killed in battle. When Amneris haughtily sneers that she is her slave's rival for the soldier's love, Aida almost betrays herself by revealing that she, too, is a princess in her homeland, but instead humbly begs for mercy from Amneris, then from her gods.

III. *The Bartered Bride*
Act I, Duet

Bedrich Smetana
(1824-1884)

Marie
Hans

Rebecka Enoch
Kip Bonsignore

Although Marie openly declares her love for Hans, he knows he is too poor to be an acceptable husband in her father's eyes. But he cannot resist her and agrees that their love will find a way to marriage.

IV. *Le Nozze di Figaro (In Italian)*
Opening scene

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
(1756-1791)

Susanna
Figaro

Elana Gizzi
Damian Savarino

As Figaro measures the room they will live in after their marriage, Susannah tries to show him her new wedding bonnet. He points out how convenient the new chamber is to his master and her mistress. She points out how easily the Count may appear in her doorway when her husband is away. Unhappily she reports that the Count wants to reinstate the ancient privilege of sleeping with the bride before her husband does. In soliloquy, Figaro grimly sings, "If you want to dance, my little count, I'll play the tune."

V. *The Medium*

Gian-Carlo Menotti
(b. 1911)

Monica
Baba
Tody

Jennifer Hollands
Kate Aldrich
Kip Bonsignore

During a seance, Baba has felt a presence that was not one of her tricks and has ordered her clients to leave. She desperately blames her mute houseboy, Toby, who escapes a beating only when Baba is calmed by her daughter, Monica. Their exotically macabre folksong, "Black Swan," is interrupted by a sound only Baba hears; and they are alone in the house.

VI. *Romeo and Juliet*
Act II, final duet

Charles Gounod
(1818-1893)

Juliet
Romeo

Valerie Yacono
Pablo Corá

Shakespeare's immortal tale of the tragic young lovers has received numerous musical treatments from concert and ballet to flamenco and "West Side Story." This is one operatic setting of the famous Balcony Scene in which the lovers' young happiness is made poignant by our knowledge that they have only three more days to live.

VII. *Rigoletto (In Italian)*
Final scene

Giuseppe Verdi
(1813-1901)

Gilda
Rigoletto

Holly Fletcher
Allan E. Naplan

The deformed court jester has plotted the death of the Duke who seduced his beloved daughter. As he drags the body in a bag to dump it in the river, he hears the Duke singing inside the inn of the assassin. To his horror he discovers that Gilda has substituted herself as victim in the plot to murder her lover. She says that she and her mother will pray for him in heaven. He realizes that he brought this curse upon himself when he mocked a grieving father at the beginning of the story.

Walter B. Ford Hall Auditorium
Tuesday, December 6, 1994
8:15 p.m.